

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:55
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007
DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM
Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the new schemes proposed to be implemented for development of tourism;
- (b) the action taken by the Government for the protection and preservation of historic monuments and structures;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to declare ancient cities in the country as heritage cities, considering the antiquity, tourism potential, cultural and architectural confluence;
- (d) whether the Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala be declared as a heritage city; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a): The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of tourism under the following Schemes:

1. Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits including Rural Tourism.
2. Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.
3. Computerization and Information Technology

(b): Under the provision of Section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains which are of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which have been in existence for not less than 100 years can be declared by Archaeological Survey of India as monuments of national importance. The conservation, preservation, structural repairs and environmental development and provision of visitors' facilities at these monuments is undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India in accordance with the archaeological norms subject to availability of resources.

(c): There is no provision in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 for declaring cities as heritage cities.

(d) & (e): Questions do not arise.